

VIBRATION DAMPENING SKATE FRAMEAbstract of the Disclosure

5 A skate frame (20) for an in-line skate (18) having a shoe portion (22) and a plurality of longitudinally aligned wheels (24) capable of traversing a surface. The skate frame including an elongate carrier frame (70) having first and second sidewalls (52a and 52b) held in space parallel disposition by a first upper wall. The carrier frame having an open lower end spaced to receive the wheels therebetween. The skate frame also including an elongate outer shell (66) having first and second sidewalls and an open lower end. The sidewalls of the outer shell are spaced to receive the carrier frame therein, such that the sidewalls of the outer shell overlap at least a portion of the sidewalls of the carrier frame. A shear layer (68) is disposed between the carrier frame and the outer shell to absorb at least a portion of the vibrational energy transmitted from the surface to the shoe portion when the skate traverses the surface. The sidewalls of the carrier frame and outer shell have a predetermined cross sectional shape to permit the sidewalls to flex, thereby absorbing at least a portion of the vibrational energy transmitted from the surface to the shoe portion when the skate traverses the surface.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176